

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 069623

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TO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, US, MY

SUBJECT: MARA INSTITUTE-OHIO UNIVERSITY AGREEMENT

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM INGRAHAM

REF: KUALA LUMPUR 1418

1. DISCUSSED MIT-OHIO UNIVERSITY AGREEMENT AGAIN WITH DR. WARMKE, CONVEYING YOUR OFFER TO ASSIST WITH APPOINTMENTS WHEN HE VISITS MALAYSIA AND YOUR SUGGESTIONS WHOM HE MIGHT CALL ON. HE IS GRATEFUL FOR YOUR OFFER, AGREES WITH LIST AND HAS PROMISED TO GIVE US AS MUCH ADVANCE NOTICE AS POSSIBLE OF HIS TRAVEL SCHEDULE.

2. WARMKE ASKED THAT WE INFORM YOU OF IMPENDING TRIP TO MALAYSIA BY PROFESSOR NORMAN PARMER, ASSISTANT DEAN OF FACILITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES, AND DR. JOHN M. PETERSON, DEAN OF COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION. UNDERSTAND THEY WILL BE ARRIVING IN KUALA LUMPUR MARCH 28 AND WILL BE STAYING ABOUT TWO WEEKS. WARMKE BELIEVES YOU MAY KNOW PARMER, WHO WAS FORMERLY IN FOREIGN SERVICE AND ONCE SERVED IN KL.

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PAGE 02 STATE 069623

3. PURPOSE OF PARMER-PETERSON VISIT IS TO GET BETTER

PICTURE OF PRESENT TRENDS IN HIGHER EDUCATION, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO FUTURE OF OHIO UNIVERSITY ROLE. THEY HOPE TO MEET WITH SENIOR GOM OFFICIALS INCLUDING GHAZALI SHAFIE, UNGKU AZIZ, HAMZAH SENDUT, JUSTICE SUFFIAN AND EDUCATION MINISTER MAHATHIR. PARMER IS CONCERNED OVER WHAT HE SEES AS MILD BUT GROWING XENOPHOBIA IN MALAYSIA AND INCREASE IN CONSERVATIVE NATIONALISM. WARMKE (WHO ASKED THAT HE NOT BE IDENTIFIED AS SOURCE) COMMENTED THAT PARMER IS RATHER CAUTIOUS AND CONSERVATIVE PERSON, CURRENTLY NOT TOO ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT FURTHER OHIO UNIVERSITY ACTIVITIES IN MALAYSIA. HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT VISIT WOULD RELIEVE PARMER'S CONCERNS AND WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR ANY HELP EMBASSY COULD OFFER IN THIS REGARD. KISSINGER

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